

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 SSO-00 ISO-00 PM-03 SS-15 USIE-00

ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02

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DODE-00 NSC-05 BIB-01 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /083 R

DRAFTED BY OSD/ISA:RCLARKE:SHC

APPROVED BY ACDA/IR:AFLOYD

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JCS:CALDERMAN

OSD/ISA:LMICHAEL

PM/DCA:VBAKER

EUR/RPM:GCHRISTIANSON

C:WSHINN

ACDA/IR:THIRSCHFELD

S/S- MR. EALUM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BONN

USNMR SHAPE

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S E C R E T STATE 132667

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: US REVIEW OF AIR MANPOWER

REF: A. STATE 8358, B. STATE 121552

DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS

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1. THE US HAS REVIEWED ALLIED OBJECTIONS TO OUR PROPOSAL

(REFTEL A) TO ASSOCIATE VOLUNTARY AIR MANPOWER REDUCTIONS WITH INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER IN THE COMMON CEILING. AS A RESULT, WE HAVE DECIDED TO SEEK ALLIANCE AGREEMENT TO OFFER THE INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER IN THE COMMON CEILING SEPARATE FROM AIR MANPOWER REDUCTIONS. WE PRESENT OUR CONCLUSION FROM THAT REVIEW AS PART OF OUR PRESENTATION ON OPTION III (SEPTEL). THIS MESSAGE CONSTITUTES SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE ON THE ISSUE FOR YOUR USE WHEN PRESENTING THE OPTION III PROPOSAL.

2. WE BELIEVE THAT AN OFFER TO INCLUDE AIR MANPOWER IN THE COMMON CEILING WOULD ALLOW THE WEST TO REGAIN A DEGREE OF TACTICAL INITIATIVE WITHOUT INCURRING THE OBJECTIONS WHICH THE ALLIES FIND TO AIR MANPOWER REDUCTIONS. MOREOVER, IT CAN BE PORTRAYED AS AN IMPORTANT STEP IN MEETING WARSAW PACT INTEREST IN THE COVERAGE OF ALL FORCES. WE ARE DEFERRING FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF AIR MANPOWER REDUCTIONS AT THIS TIME

3. NATO SHOULD DECIDE WHETHER TO GO AHEAD SEPARATELY WITH AIR MANPOWER TO THE EAST OR TO PLAY IT IN CONJUNCTION WITH OPTION III. THIS DECISION WILL HAVE TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE PROGRESS OF WORK ON OPTION III AND THE STATUS OF THE TALKS IN VIENNA.

4. ALTHOUGH WE BELIEVE THAT THE INITIAL PRESENTATION OF THE PROPOSAL TO THE EAST NEED NOT BE DETAILED, WE WOULD ENVISION THE USE OF AN ILLUSTRATIVE COMMON CEILING FIGURE OF ABOUT 900,000. IF ASKED BY THE EAST, WE WOULD RESPOND THAT WE CONTINUE TO OPPOSE THE INCLUSION OF AIRMEN IN MBFR REDUCTIONS.

5. WE ALSO WOULD SAY THAT WE DO NOT ENVISION TOTAL FREEDOM TO MIX GROUND AND AIR FORCE MANPOWER AFTER REDUCTIONS. RATHER, WE ENVISION SOME CONSTRAINT ON SERVICE TRANSFERS THAT WOULD PERMIT LIMITED CONVERSIONS. SUCH A PROCEDURE WOULD ENSURE THAT GROUND FORCE MANPOWER WOULD NOT SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE ABOVE ITS POST-REDUCTION LEVEL (E.G., 700,000).

6. WE WISH TO STRESS THAT THE INITIAL PRESENTATION OF THE
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PROPOSAL TO THE EAST SHOULD NOT INCLUDE A DETAILED DEVELOPMENT OF THE SERVICE SUBCEILING ISSUE.

7. FOR LONDON: YOU MAY DRAW ON THIS CABLE IN RESPONDING TO FCO SPEAKING NOTE ON AIR MANPOWER (REFTEL B). KISSINGER

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